

Message Text

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FOR PAO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TU, CY, GR
SUBJ: YANKI INTERVIEW WITH ECEVIT

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE TRANSCRIPT OF
AND INTEVIEW WITH PRIMIN ECEVIT PUBLISHED IN THE MARCH 20
EDITION OF THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE YANKI. ACCORDING TO THE
INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH THE INTERVIEW CONSISTS OF ANSWERS
GIVEN BY ECEVIT TO QUESTIONS POSED BY THE NEW YORK TIMES AT
THE TIME OF THE MONTREUX SUMMIT. THE PUBLISHER OF YANKI IS
THE LOCAL STRINGER FOR NYT AND WAS IN MONTREUX DURING THE
SUMMIT.(INTERVIEW PROBABLY CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH; THUS
FOLLOWING TEXT RESULT OF DOUBLE TRANSLATION.)

2. BEGIN TEXT
QUESTION-HOW HAS THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE INFLUENCED YOU?
ANSER-THE AMERICANS HAVE DONE SOMETHING WHICH MAKES ME
DOUBT THAT THE SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS WILL BE USEFUL OR OF
HELP. THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT CREATED A FEELING WHICH WILL
NOT HELP ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF UNDERSTANDING.
NOW, AT THE VERY LEAST GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE GOING TO TAKE AN
UNCOMPROMISING ATTITUDE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT AMERICA HAD IN
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MIND.
I SEE A VERY INEPTLY PREPARED SCENARIO. OTHERWISE, THE
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING GOALS WHICH WE CANNOT YET
COMPREHEND. I DO NOT BELIEVE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS ARE
GOING TO BE SOLVED THROUGH SO-CALLED "SCENARIOS". WE WERE
NOT AWARE OF THE INTENTIONS OF THE US WHICH IS
SUPPOSED TO BE OUR ALLY. DESPITE ALL OUR INSISTENCE AND

QUESTIONS, THEY DID NOT GIVE US THE ANSWER WE EXPEDITED.

QUESTION-DID THE AMERICANS KNOW THE PROPOSALS YOU WERE GOING TO MAKE ON CYPRUS?

ANSWER-WE NEVER TOLD THE AMERICANS ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT OUR PLANS CONCERNING CYPRUS...WE THOUGHT THAT WOULD MAKE THE ISSUE MORE DIFFICULT. IN 1974 WHEN KISSINGER ASKED ME WHAT I THOUGHT ABOUT CYPRUS, I RESPONDED, "I CANNOT TELL YOU BEFORE I LET THE GREEK CYPRIOTS KNOW." HE INDICATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD. QUESTION-WHEN WILL YOU MAKE YOUR PROPOSALS ON CYPRUS? HAVE YOU SET A DATE?

ANSWER-THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE IS A NEW FACTOR; I HAVE TO TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION. WE MUST DISCUSS THIS AS A GOVERNMENT, NOT JUST AT MY LEVEL. WE MUST TALK TO DENKTAS, ALSO. I HAVE NOT DECIDED YET, BUT THIS IS A NEW AND IMPORTANT FACTOR. I CANNOT MAKE A STATEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT.

QUESTION-HAD YOU ESTABLISHED A DATE TO GIVE YOUR CYPRUS PLAN TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS BEFORE THIS NEW FACTOR EMERGED?

ANSWER-DENKTAS HAD PREPARED HIS PROPOSALS ON GEOGRAPHIC, AS WELL AS CONSTITUTIONAL, ISSUES. THEY WERE READY AT THE END OF FEBRUARY OR BEGINNING OF MARCH. BUT KARAMANLIS AND I DECIDED IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO DELAY THEIR DISCLOSURE UNTIL THE END OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS. IT WOULD HAVE EFFECTED THE ATMOSPHERE OF OUR TALKS. WALDHEIM ALSO THOUGHT IT APPROPRIATE. FOR THIS REASON WE POSTPONED THE SUBMISSION OF THE CYPRUS PROPOSALS. OTHERWISE, DENKTAS WAS READY.

QUESTION- WERE YOU GOING TO GIVE THE PRINCIPAL OUTLINE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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WALDHEIM?

ANSWER-PROPOSALS WERE TO BE GIVEN TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS THROUGH WALDHEIM AT THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS. HOW THIS IS GOING TO BE DONE CAN BE DECIDED UPON BY DENKTAS AND WALDHEIM. I COULD ALSO MAKE SOME SUGGESTIONS. THE ESSENTIAL THING IS FOR THE CONCERNED PARTIES TO SIT AT A TABLE, AND THE TURKISH SIDE TO PRESENT PROPOSALS...

QUESTION-WALDHEIM SAID THAT DENKTAS WOULD FIRST SUBMIT THE PROPOSALS TO HIM. FOR TALKS TO BEGIN WALDHEIM WOULD HAVE TO FIND THEM SATISFACTORY.

ANSWER-I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY SAID, BUT DENKTAS, IF HE WANTS, MAY INFORM WALDHEIM OF THE MAIN LINES OF HIS PROPOSALS. BUT, IN MY OPINION THE TALKS MUST NOT BE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF " "PREVIEW." ANY, QUESTIONS CANNOT BE SOLVED WITHOUT DISCUSSING THEM.

QUESTION-ARE YOU GOING TO REVIEW TURKISH POLICY TOWARD THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE OF ITS RECENT ATTITUDE? ARE YOU CONSIDERING OTHER THINGS?

ANSWER-AFTER THE VANCE STATEMENT, I HAVE BEGUN TO DOUBT THAT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IN THE US REALLY WANTS THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT. THIS IS AN AGREEMENT WE INHERITED. WE DID NOT CREATE IT. THERE ARE ELEMENTS WE OPPOSE IN THE

AGREEMENT, BUT WE HAVE ACCEPTED IT. WE THOUGH WE COULD AMELIORATE THEM IN FUTURE AGREEMENTS WE MAKE WITH THE UNITED STATES. IN CONSIDERING ALL THIS, WE THOUGHT THAT THE UNITED STATES WANTED PASSAGE OF THE AGREEMENT BY CONGRESS. BUT NOW, WE HAVE OUR DOBUTS. IF THEY HAD WANTED, THEY COULD HAVE GIVEN AN OPEN ANSWER TO THE LETTER THEY RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. NOW EVEN CONGRESS IS AS CONFUSED AS WE ARE ABOUT THIS SITUATION.

QUESTION-DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU WILL UNILATERALLY ABROGATE THE AGREEMENT?

ANSWER-WE'LL ACCEPT IT IF AMERCA DOES NOT WANT THE AGREEMENT, BUT WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING. TURKEY'S DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS CANNOT REMAIN IN SUSPENSE ANY LONGER; THEY WILL NOT WAIT. FOR THIS REASON, IT IS GOING TO BE UNCLASSIFIED

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NECESSARY TO REVIEW OUR SITUATION FROM THE FOUNDATIONS.

QUESTION-WHAT ARE THE POSSIBILITIES?

ANSWER- NO, I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING AT THIS POINT. I WILL NOT WITH ULTERIOR MOTIVES TALK TO OTHER COUNTRIES. IF THEY COMPEL US, HOWEVER, OF COURSE WE WILL CONSIDER OTHER POSSIBILITIES. TURKEY IS A COUNTRY WITH A LONG HISTORY, AND IT WILL EXIST IN THE FUTURE AS IT HAS EXISTED IN THE PAST. CERTAINLY WE WILL FIND ALTERNATIVES.

QUESTION-IS RUSSIA ONE?

ANSWER-I AM NOT SAYING ANYTHING AT THIS POINT. AND I HAVE NOTHING UP MY SLEEVE. WHAT I WANT TO SAY IS THAT A COUNTRY WITH TURKEY'S GEO-POLITICAL SITUATION CANNOT LEAVE THE DEFENSE OF THE COUNTRY IN SUSPENSION FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME. SOMETHING DEFINITELY HAS TO BE DONE. END TEXT SPIERS

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